

Connected

Sunday 25th January 2026

3rd Sunday Of Epiphany

The Bishop's Visit!

Many of you will know that, last weekend, we hosted Right Rev'd Michael Beasley, our Bishop of Bath & Wells.

He started by preaching at Christ Church from Isaiah 40 "Comfort, comfort my people...". The photo is at the end of our service where Nicky is about to show us all what happened on 'Platform 2' - the children's teaching.

On Monday, he met a variety of groups. This started off with a group from The Beacon at Emmanuel, then Deanery Reps, seeing Julie Birkett and then myself, Anne (Safeguarding), Nicky and the FYCM team, Treasurers, dinner with the Wardens, and then a combined service leaders/PCC's in the evening. As I write this, I feel exhausted!

It was quite a day but, throughout, the Bishop was interested in everything and wanted to encourage us all. Knowing how busy Bishops can get, this was a real commitment for him to make. However, he said to me (several times) how he wanted to see and encourage 'what was happening on the ground' ...he's not just a Bishop for the Palace in Wells!

We are very fortunate to have such a godly and committed man – do please keep him in your prayers.

Tom



Evening Prayer Service

Our next Benefice Prayer Evening will be at **Emmanuel** on Sunday 1st February at 5pm (**please note the earlier time**).

Bishop Michael has invited the Diocese to make this year one with "a special focus on prayer" and we will launch our year together at our next prayer evening. There will be lots of different opportunities to pray together and engage with the Bishop's call. You can watch his invitation to prayer on the Diocesan website: <https://youtu.be/SpozN-sXZaQ?si=eeoeGF0eAncQhqjB>

Let's step into 2026 in prayer as we ponder Bishop Michael's challenge: "Might focusing more on prayer shape us to become the people God has created us to be? Certainly. Could we become the answer to our prayers? In God's good grace, I hope so."

Donna

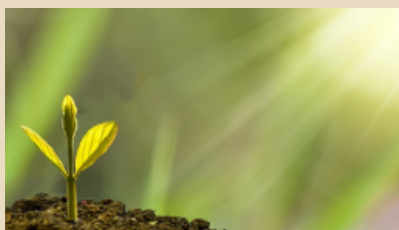


Christ Church

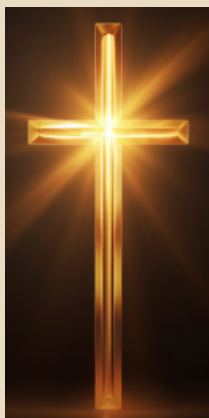
Isaiah 42: 1-9

Following on from the Bishop's sermon last week, we will be looking at the next stage in Israel's 'hope after exile'.

Come along/tune in to find out more.



Sermon Snippets



The gospel of Matthew quotes Isaiah's prophecy at the start of Jesus' ministry.

This Sunday, we will use this prophecy as a lens through which we consider how Jesus' ministry shapes our own.

We'll also be exploring our vision and mission statements together as we, as Emmanuel Church, seek God's continued direction on how to be His light to our community in an often dark world.

Emmanuel

Isaiah 9: 1-4 + Matthew 4: 12-23

What's On This Week

Sunday 25th January

Children's Ministry Training at 12:30pm in The Spire Centre

Monday 26th January

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 27th January

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 28th January

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Alpha Course at 7pm in The Spire Centre

(for those who have signed up)

Thursday 29th January

Active Men's Walk - *contact Dave Milsom for info*

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Saturday 31st January

Active Men's Darts Evening at 7pm at Allstars Sports Bar

(for those who have signed up)

Sunday 1st February

Evening Prayer Service at 5pm at Emmanuel

(Theme: Diocesan Year Of Prayer Launch)

Notices

Verse For The Year Bookmarks

'Verse For The Year' bookmarks are available at the back of both churches for anyone who would like one.

If all these go but you would like one, please contact Emma in the Church Office as more can be printed.

Desserts For Alpha

If you are able to supply a dessert for our Alpha course (either home made or shop bought) please add your name to the sheet at the back of Christ Church - there are just a few spaces left now! Thank you!

Verse For The Week

" 'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope'. "

Isaiah 42: 1-4

Prayer Pointers

Monday: Spring will soon be here and we look forward to the feeling of renewal as new life begins. As we step out of the darkness of winter let us give thanks for God's creation.

Tuesday : Families are so important. They tie people together and provide support love and security. Pray for those who do not have this support or have never experienced true family life.

Wednesday : Many people require care in their homes due to health issues. Much of this is provided by family members, and also by care workers. Pray for their ability to keep to the task and give them patience and understanding.

Thursday : We think of our schools and colleges, and especially for Christ Church School. Pray for all involved in its organisation, running, and development. For teachers, Governors, and helpers.

Friday : For all those involved in family and child ministry at Christ Church - that this continues to grow and that more families may be encouraged to come.

Saturday : Give thanks for our clergy and for every single person involved in our weekly and Sunday worship. It is truly a team effort.

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343

e: revtom@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016

e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Coffee after the Service...

Parish Giving Scheme

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a scheme, funded by the Church of England, which can be used by both taxpayers and non-taxpayers. A number of Christ Church donors have already switched their giving to the PGS which saves our Treasurer and Gift Aid Co-Ordinator considerable work!

Donations are taken by Direct Debit on the first of the month. The amount donated each month can be changed anytime by making a phone call or accessing your account online. Donations can be either for the General Fund or to support Nicky Boardman, our Family Ministry Worker. Donors also have the option of setting up automatic annual inflationary rises, but this is optional.

We would ask all current and potential donors to consider switching their giving to the PGS. For further details on how to do this, please see last week's Connected, visit our FAQ available [here](#), or, if you would like to set-up your account online, use [this link](#) which will take you directly to the page for Christ Church on the PGS.

Thank you!



Terry Hadley's Funeral

The funeral for Terry Hadley will be held on Wednesday 4th February at 2:30pm at Christ Church. All church family are invited.



Singing For Fun!



The Ambassadors had a great time on Saturday 'singing for fun' with Abie Evans...!

Ambassadors Ladies' Group
Saturday 11th April
Weston Playhouse



Just one more week to sign-up for this event!

If you would like to attend, please pop your name on the sheet at the back of Christ Church or, for those at Emmanuel who would like to come along, please contact Emma in the Church Office. You will also need to pay your £27.50 per head as follows...

(1) via this [payment link](#) (use 'Pay as guest')

OR (2) Bank Transfer direct to our bank:
Churchwardens & Council of Christ Church
Sort Code: 60-23-32 / Acc No: 54084423
PLEASE QUOTE REF: 42ND STREET

OR (3) see either David White or Emma in the Church Office to pay via cash or card

Active Men's Group Darts Evening
Saturday 31st January
Allstars Sports Bar
(Regent Street)
Time: 7pm
Cost: £5 per head



Food & drinks can be ordered at the bar

If you would like to attend, please sign-up on the sheet at Christ Church or, for those at Emmanuel, please contact Paul Sodzi or Emma in the Office.

More coffee anyone...?

All Who Are Thirsty

As part of Jolyon's work for ReSource, he and others are hosting a Regional Day in Wells United Church on Saturday 7th February, 10am to 4pm. The theme is 'All Who Are Thirsty' and this day offers an opportunity for teams and individuals to:

- Worship and encounter God afresh;
- Wrestle with the practicalities of living expectantly in our local context;
- Be refreshed and renew our faith in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

We will also pray for each other, enjoy a good quality lunch, and have the option of receiving prayer ministry and/or anointing with oil.

Flyers are available with further details and there are posters in both churches. Tickets are £20. To register and find out more please go to:

www.resourcingrenewal.org/events



Car Parking At Christ Church

Could we please ask all who use our car park at Christ Church to ensure they park considerately and, in the first instance, within the spaces provided.

With regard to the three spaces which abut the garden, please ensure that the two outside spaces (i.e. the one nearest the road and the one next to the church wall) are parked in first so that the middle space is filled last. This will enable us to achieve maximum capacity, which is particularly vital when we have a lot of people needing to use the car park.

Thank you!



Christians Against Poverty Breakfast

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) are hosting a community breakfast in Weston-super-Mare on Thursday 26th February from 8am-9:15am at Wetherspoons, Cabot Court Hotel (BS23 2AH).

In light of the current cost of living crisis, we are seeing people in our community struggling to afford essentials such as food and heating. We know that the situation is likely to get worse as people are being pulled into deeper poverty, but we also know the value of the support that can be offered through churches.

christians
against
poverty

CAP

Since the Weston Area CAP Debt Centre closed last year we still have clients phoning in, asking the local church to provide much needed support at a vulnerable time.

So, if you are interested in coming together to hear of the challenges Weston faces and talk about how we, the Church, can bring vital support to those in debt at this time, we would love for you to come along.

You can sign-up for the breakfast by completing [this form](#)

Thank you. CAP.

BRIDGWATER
CONVENTION

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

13TH & 14TH MARCH 2026

SAVE THE
DATE(S)

More
details to
follow...